

WIFE SAVERS

By Mrs. Mary Morton

There are several kinds of lateness, to indulge in which is ranked as a positive social error. Sticklers on social etiquette class being late to a dinner engagement as one of the unpardonable social errors. Being late at the opera theatre is still something that people permit themselves—although it does sometimes seriously disturb those of the audience who wish to be present when the curtain

rises—but to be late to a dinner engagement is another matter.

Meat Balls—Season ground steak with a little chopped onion, salt and pepper, add half a cup of bread crumbs and an egg and form into balls. Drop the meat balls into a sauce made of one can of tomato soup or one pint of canned tomato, one onion and one green pepper ground. Cook until done—about half an hour.

Grease stains on leather may be removed by applying benzine or pure turpentine. Wash the spots afterward with the well beaten white of an egg or a good leather reviver.

An available supply of various-sized corks will not come amiss. Used corks may be restored to apparent newness by laying them in boiling water and permitting the water to cool.

Pearls should be polished with a chamois, but never in water. They should be worn often, for contact with the flesh is their preservative. Diamonds are frequently kept in jeweler's sawdust, and are dried there after being brushed with soapuds. They may be rinsed in cologne water, and it helps their brilliance to be shaken in a bag of bran. A piece of clean white blotting paper may be used as a dryer if the sawdust or bran is not available.

A small brush comes in handy when washing fancy cut glass.

Before scaling a fish dip it into boiling water. The scales will then come off easily.

When necessary to iron delicate laces they should be placed between cloths and then laid on a Turkish towel.

When pressing a knife-plaited skirt, try pinning each plait to the ironing board until you have the board filled; also pin at the top of the skirt so as to hold them, and press with hot iron until thoroughly dry. Repeat until all around the skirt.

Flaring bowls of colored pottery are the most favored decoration for the console table, and it is even possible to pick up something colorfully artistic at the 10-cent store. The effect rather than the quality may be all that is required for making some dark corner cheerful.

When frying doughnuts, French fried potatoes, or anything that is fried in deep fat, drain on brown paper. The paper will absorb the grease and the food will be light and soft.

French Mashed Potatoes—Put the potatoes on to cook in cold water with their skins on. When done, peel and put through the ricer into a pan in the bottom of which is about one-quarter cup butter. Have one and one-cups scalding hot milk ready and add it very slowly to the mashed potatoes, beating it a great deal as you do so. Do not add more milk than is necessary to make a light, fluffy mixture. Put half of this in a baking dish and sprinkle with a layer of grated cheese, put in the rest of the potatoes, cover with another layer of grated cheese. "Skewer around" with a fork and put on the top grate of a hot oven for a minute or so to brown.

Oysters in Patty Shells—Line patty shells with dough made as follows: two and one-half cups pastry flour, three-quarters cup shortening, one-half teaspoon salt. Gently mix above ingredients with tips of fingers. Add enough cold water or milk to make dough of right consistency—the less

liquid the better. Place on board lightly dredged with flour; roll into thin sheet, cut and arrange in patty shells. (This makes enough dough for about eight or ten shells.) Next wash thoroughly one pint of oysters. Dip first in beaten egg, then in fine cracker crumbs. Fry in butter or lard until golden brown. Then melt four tablespoons of butter, mix with three tablespoons flour to make smooth paste, and stir it into a pint of boiling milk seasoned with salt and paprika. Stir constantly, and when thoroughly cooked add about one teaspoon of canned sweet mixed peppers, cook one minute longer, and add the browned oysters, which have been cut into small pieces. Then fill the patty cases and garnish with parsley. As a time-saver, the patty cases may be prepared a day or two before ready for use and placed into tightly covered utensil to retain their crispness. Also the cream sauce may be prepared beforehand, adding the peppers and oysters when ready for use.

PERCENTAGE

Joseph Jefferson used to say that during his long stage career he was never associated with anyone showing undue familiarity except one individual named Bagley, his property man for several seasons. The man was valuable in his way, and so Mr. Jefferson tolerated his disagreeable manners until one night in Baltimore. The property man got very drunk in the afternoon, and in the evening paid his way into a gallery seat. Mr. Jefferson was playing "Rip Van Winkle." The angry Gretchen had just driven poor, destitute Rip from the cottage, when Rip turned and, with a world of pathos, asked: "Den I haf no interest in der house?" The theatre was deathly still, the audience half in tears, when Bagley's cracked voice was heard in response: "Only 80 per cent, Joe, old boy; only 80 per cent."

OUCH

"Mother," said George, as he presented an office chum who had come to spend Saturday afternoon with him, "this is my friend, Mr. Specknoodle." George's mother was rather deaf. "I'm sorry," she said, "but I didn't quite catch the name." "My friend, Mr. Specknoodle!" shouted George. "I'm sorry," said his mother, "but I can't hear distinctly." "Specknoodle!" George fairly belted. "I'm afraid it's no use," said the old lady, as she shook her head. "It sounds just like 'Specknoodle' to me."

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